

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 864

By Doggett

A RESOLUTION to recognize Beth Keaton on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Beth Keaton, who has served with distinction as vice president of Community Development with the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, after three decades of exemplary service, Ms. Keaton recently announced that she will be taking her much-deserved retirement on February 22, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Beth Keaton began her illustrious career in economic and community development in 1992 with Lawrence County's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Council and continued to be a driving force behind the economic and civic well-being of her community after that organization merged with the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Keaton's impact on her community has been far reaching, from her contributions to career and technical education through procuring grant funding to establish instructional service centers with Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology (TCATs), to her work in animal welfare, co-founding and serving on the board of Friends of Lawrence County Animals; and

WHEREAS, a trailblazer who spearheaded countless initiatives, Beth Keaton led Leadership Lawrence for more than a decade and co-founded GATTIS Regional Leadership; she also created a model dual-enrollment program, facilitating partnership between Columbia State Community College, TCAT-Pulaski, and TCAT-Hohenwald, and ensured that Lawrence

County was an early beneficiary of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, with the county becoming the sixth in the State to participate in the now-statewide program; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Keaton's legacy of leadership includes building bridges throughout Lawrence County to foster meaningful conversations and taking action to improve literacy, beautification, substance abuse prevention, homelessness services, recidivism rates, and various other community development endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Beth Keaton exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Ms. Keaton has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the sincere respect and admiration of her colleagues and the citizens of Lawrence County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Beth Keaton our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.